

## **Recycling and Refuse Management Committee Minutes from 10/7/10 meeting**

**Present:** Marianne Lorenzelli, Meg Vickery, Arthur Vickery (visiting), John Root, Susan Waite (DPW liaison), Lucy McMurrer.

### **Meeting Minute Approval**

The May minutes were approved with changes regarding the Eco Hero Hunt participants. Susan will make amendments. July and August minutes were accepted without changes.

### **Committee Chair Position**

The Committee needs to elect a new RRMCM Chair as Meg Vickery has officially stepped down. John Root was nominated and unanimously voted into the position.

### **Membership Recruitment**

Susan enumerated the people she knew who might be interested. Meg and Lucy both emailed or spoke with Sue Morello and while she was out of town this week, she will attend next month. Tom Walsh was ill and unable to come this month but will come next month also. John will contact Andrew Bellack. Marianne will contact Laurel Dickey. Meg will contact Sue Cairn. Lucy will contact Janet Heller. Susan will also send us the link to the Citizens Activity Form online for potential members.

John also had the idea of “deputizing” people to take responsibility within their organizations for recycling. That way the “whole town can be on the committee.”

Lucy will create a contest for potential members and bring it to the next meeting. John suggested writing a letter to the Amherst Bulletin asking for members. Susan thought perhaps a letter of welcome to new members, detailing what the committee does, might be good PR.

### **Extended Producer Responsibility**

Susan brought up the idea of “product stewardship.” She handed out a flyer about this and discussed encouraging companies that make products to then take care of their disposal at the end of that product’s life. Should we, as an Amherst community, show support of this with a resolution (similar to what Northampton has done)? Guilford is supportive of this and we could use the Northampton resolution as a guide. The committee voted to pursue this. Then Meg had to leave and we no longer had a quorum.

-- RRMCM MEETING NO LONGER OFFICIAL (Quorum broken) --

### **Conflict of Interest Forms**

Both Marianne and John need to show proof of completion of the Conflict of Interest survey required for all committee members. Marianne will come to Susan’s office on Tuesday to complete it and John will mail his completed form to Susan. Marianne departed.

**MRF Grant**

There is a \$3000 grant we can apply for through the Springfield MRF. The due date is 10/29. Susan suggested we ask for more event recycling bins for the Common. They range in price from \$250 for 5 to \$1000 for 10. John and Lucy suggested purchasing a banner for the committee or getting a Styrofoam guru who could help in our quest to get Styrofoam out of Amherst, in addition to the recycling bins. Perhaps Tony Maroulis could be invited to one of our meetings to help brainstorm needs.

**America Recycles Day**

Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> is "America Recycles Day" and we need to mark it as a committee. Perhaps we could write a letter to the editor of the Gazette or the Bulletin? Get a library display in the Jones for the week? Get the word out to the public school blogs? Susan will look into the latter two and Lucy will see if she can locate another letter to the editor she wrote a few years ago. Both will bring what they have to the next meeting.

**School Composting**

School composting is going well for both Fort River and Wildwood. Students at both schools have seen the videos Susan has about composting. Both schools, however, are relying heavily on sugar cane, single use, compostable trays instead of plastic, washable trays. We are concerned because those trays cost 4x as much as Styrofoam and we're hoping Whitsun's will continue to use them and not opt for the lower cost trays. Crocker Farm will begin composting on 11/1. To get this off the ground, Susan needs help from CF parents and if she doesn't get this, she will rely on the committee. She anticipates the first two weeks of November for 1 ½ hrs. each day. Susan will get send to Lucy via email information she sent to Cathy Aldrich and Lucy will get it up on the CF PGO blog.

Meeting adjourned 6 p.m. until Nov. 4 at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy McMurrer